

Prior law provided that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, through its secretary, may promulgate rules and regulations to control the importation and private possession of big exotic cats. Requires that the rules provide exceptions for big cats traditionally kept by colleges and universities, animal sanctuaries, zoos, wildlife research centers, and scientific organizations and for owners who can prove previous ownership.

New law provides that previous ownership will include persons who obtained their animal by lawful means and continuously possessed their animal since August 15, 2006.

New law provides for retroactive application.

Effective August 1, 2014.

(Amends R.S. 56:6(31))